

RESOLUTION NO. 05-24

A RESOLUTION OF THE RIDGECREST CITY COUNCIL IN OPPOSITION TO THE DESIGNATION OF STATE ROUTE 99 TO AN INTERSTATE FACILITY FROM STATE ROUTE 4 IN STOCKTON TO INTERSTATE 5 SOUTH OF BAKERSFIELD CALIFORNIA

WHEREAS, the City of Ridgecrest is a member of the Kern Council of Governments, and

WHEREAS, the Kern Council of Governments is the federally designated metropolitan planning organization for the Kern region, and is the state designated regional transportation planning agency for the Kern region, and

WHEREAS, State Route 99 does not meet Federal Interstate Standards, and the estimated cost to upgrade State Route 99 would cost between \$6 and \$8 billion dollars, and concern is expressed with the fiscal impact of the re-designation, and

WHEREAS, the Kern Council of Governments adopted Resolution 04-32 on November 18, 2004 expressing its serious concerns and not supporting the proposal at this time. The Board of Directors additionally adopted a statement indicating a willingness to reexamine the issue based on specific criteria.

1. A documented articulation of why interstate designation has an economic development benefit for the entire San Joaquin Valley region;
2. Creation of a "white paper" outlining the benefits and costs associated with the designation;
3. The creation of a financial plan that in no way impacts the existing transportation priorities established by regional transportation agencies in the San Joaquin Valley;
4. The creation of a dialogue on this question among all stakeholders in Valley that focuses on good public policy and best transportation investment for the people of the region.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE RIDGECREST CITY COUNCIL does hereby support the actions of the Kern Council of Governments and opposes the proposal until such time as a reexamination of the project is undertaken by the Kern Council of Governments Board of Directors.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 6th day of April 2005, by the following vote:

AYES: Mayor Holloway, Council Members Martin, Clark, and Carter

NOES: None

ABSENT: Council Member Morgan

ABSTAIN: None



Rita Gable
City Clerk



Marshall "Chip" Holloway, Mayor